

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY  
VETERANS' RECOGNITION SUBCOMMITTEE**

Pursuant to Section 19.84, Wis. Stats., a regular meeting of the **Brown County Veterans' Recognition Subcommittee** was held on Tuesday, July 15, 2014 at 5:00 p.m., in Room 201 of the Northern Building, 305 E. Walnut Street, Green Bay, Wisconsin.

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**PRESENT:** Bernie Erickson, Ed Koslowski, Rosemary Desisles, Delores Pierce, Duane Pierce, Jerry Polus, Carl Soderburg, Louise Dahlke, Sherry Steenbock, Joe Witkowski  
**EXCUSED:** Jim Haskins

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**\*\*Running Total of Veterans' Certificates: 1619**

**1. Call Meeting to Order.**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Bernie Erickson at 4:57 p.m.

**2. Invocation.**

Jim Haskins was not in attendance and therefore there was no invocation.

**3. Approve/Modify Agenda.**

**Motion made by Duane Pierce, seconded by Rosemary Desisles to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**4. Approve or Modify Minutes of June 17, 2014.**

**Motion made by Ed Koslowski, seconded by Rosemary Desisles to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**5. Discussion regarding Veterans Appreciation Day at the Brown County Fair and review of agenda.**

CVSO Jerry Polus indicated that he had received a request from a Korean War veteran who lives on Peters Street for a ride to the Fair. Polus asked if anyone was able to give this vet a ride, to let him know.

Polus provided the Subcommittee with a copy of the program agenda for the Fair, a copy of which is attached. It was noted that there will not be a bagpiper at the event. Polus went through the agenda with the Subcommittee and all agreed that it looked good. Erickson noted that Monterey Trail will be performing beginning about 5:00 p.m. until the time of the ceremony as well as again after the ceremony and it was also noted that the stage for the band will be located outside of the tent.

Polus continued that he has received commitments from all of the organizations he has invited to the event and he will need 10 tables for these groups along with three additional tables at the front of the tent. Additional organizations that will have booths in the tent are set out on the handout provided by Ed Koslowski, a copy of which is attached.

Polus continued that Joe Witkowski is no longer able to direct the veterans as to where to park, but everything else for the event seems to be in place.

Koslowski reported that he had recently attended a rummage sale at a church in Algoma where he was able to purchase a number of 8' tables, plus he has some at home so there should be enough tables. Louise Dahlke said that she was advised that the Fair would have

seven tables available and she would have the first option to use any more that may become available. Dahlke mentioned that at the last meeting the Roselles indicated that they would be able to assist with directing veterans as to where to park and where to go, however, she will check at the next Fair Board meeting to see if there would be any Fair personnel that could also assist with this.

Koslowski asked Dahlke when he would be able to set up the static display and Dahlke stated that he could come in and do it any time Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday. She also indicated that if signage is provided to the Fair by August 11, she would make sure that it was hung wherever Koslowski desired.

Polus had posters available at the meeting for anyone who wanted them to post around the community. He also indicated that tickets were available in his office as well as at the ADRC and Veterans Center.

**6. Report from Committee Members Present (Erickson, Desisles, Haskins, Koslowski, Maino, Ness, Pierce, Steenbock & Witkowski).**

-Erickson shared an interesting e-mail he received recently regarding famous people who are buried at Arlington National Cemetery, including actor Lee Marvin, Bob Keeshan (Captain Kangaroo) and Fred Rogers (Mr. Rogers Neighborhood).

-Polus asked if Wi-Fi service is available at the Fair as he would like to have information and applications available regarding the Honor Flight program via computer. Dahlke will check on this for Polus.

-Desisles reported that there had been a good showing of kids at the recent Kids Day event held at the Neville Public Museum. She further indicated that Mayor Schmidt indicated he is looking for volunteers to help in conjunction with one of the tall ships that is coming back to Green Bay August 8, 9 and 10. Volunteers are needed for things such as ticket taking and Desisles indicated that the Navy League will likely be involved.

-Pierce advised the Subcommittee that the next booyah sale at the Legion on Irwin Avenue will take place on September 13 and those interested should arrive early as the booyah sells out very quickly. Pierce also provided an update on the Pearly Gates ride that was held recently. He indicated that they shattered all previous records and had 736 bikes participate along with 135 hot rods. They anticipate funds raised to be nearly six figures. Polus indicated that he may possibly be losing a \$13,000 grant from his budget and he would like Pearly Gates to give consideration to donating that amount to his office to make up the grant which Polus has come to rely on over the years.

-Steenbock indicated that there were no new certificates sent out last month. She also indicated that she would like to step down as Vice President of the Subcommittee and was hoping that someone else who would be more comfortable running a meeting would take her position. Erickson stated that he will add election of new Vice President to next month's meeting agenda.

-Witkowski shared an ad he had seen in the paper for Ryan Funeral Home which indicated that the flag at the funeral home was being flown in honor of vet Roy Schernie. Witkowski also had another article that indicated that in 1959 the VFW submitted a proposal to the City Council to build a veterans memorial building in the Town of Lawrence. Witkowski continued that the Aluminum Overcast, a restored B17 bomber, will be on display Friday through Sunday at the airport. Veterans will be admitted free, however the charge for others is \$10 for an individual and \$20 for a family.

Witkowski also indicated that the National September 11 Memorial Museum opened to the public on May 21, six days after it was dedicated by President Obama. The Museum covers half of the 16 acre World Trade Center Complex and honors the 2,983 people killed in the September 11 attack. Veterans are admitted free.

Witkowski concluded by reporting that Bowe Bergdahl will be returning to regular duty and therefore investigators will now be able to question him as to the events that led to his capture.

-Pierce added that he has heard that anybody who wishes to go to the airport in Oshkosh to welcome back the Honor Flight coming in in August will be charged the admittance fee for the airport of \$60 per person. Pierce felt this was totally inappropriate.

-Witkowski also pointed out an error on the previous month's minutes under the attendance section. This error will be corrected on the minutes online as well as the original that is filed with the County Clerk's office.

7. **Discussion and approval re: Award certificate for Veterans Appreciation Day at the Brown County Fair.**

No discussion was held on this matter as the award certificates were approved at the last meeting.

8. **Discussion of letter to Festival Foods regarding veterans parking (mail to all four stores).**

Erickson indicated that the letter referred to was suggested by a County Board member who is also a veteran.

**Motion made by Duane Pierce, seconded by Ed Koslowski to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

9. **Report from CVSO Jerry Polus.**

Polus did not have anything to report that had not already been discussed.

10. **Comments from Carl Soderburg.**

Carl Soderburg indicated that the VA bill requiring the VA to pay for medical services outside of the system if the veteran lives more than 40 miles from a facility or has to wait more than 14 days for an appointment is currently in the conference committee which consists of half senators and half representatives.

11. **Comments from Tracy Rosinski.**

Rosinski was not in attendance.

12. **Such Other Matters as Authorized by Law.**

Koslowski stated that he had recently attended a United Patriotic Society meeting and learned that the UPS will be sending a letter to the Packers organization in an attempt to determine what happened to the POW/MIA memorial that was moved during renovations. In the event the memorial is put back up, UPS would like to do another dedication.

13. **Adjourn.**

**Motion made by Duane Pierce, seconded by Delores Pierce to adjourn at 5:29 p.m. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Respectfully submitted,

Therese Giannunzio  
Recording Secretary

BROWN CO.VETERANS/MILITARY APPRECIATION DAY

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 2014

PROGRAM AGENDA

6:00 PM – WELCOME – JOHN MAINO, MASTER OF CEREMONIES

6:05 PM – POSTING OF COLORS – DESERT VETS

6:10 PM – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE –ED KOSLOWSKI

6:12 PM – BAG PIPER –?

6:15PM – SINGING OF STAR SPANGLED BANNER – LAURA NEHLSSEN

6:20PM – CHAPLAIN PRAYER – GEORGE DEXTER, VVA#224

6:22 PM – WELCOME-BROWN CO. EXEC./TROY STRECKENBACH

6:25PM- COMMEMORATIVE PROGRAM – BERNIE ERICKSON

- TABLE CEREMONY –ROLLING THUNDER
- READING OFBROWN CO. KIAS/KOREAN WAR –BELL
- POSTING OF WREATH
- TAPS
- KOREAN RECOGNITION CERTIFICATES PRESENTED

7:00 PM – RETIREMENT OF COLORS

7:02 PM – DRAWING FOR DOOR PRIZES

7:15PM- MUSIC BY MONTEREY TRAIL

**SPECIAL NOTE: RECOGNIZE HEARTLAND HOSPICE AS SPONSOR FOR THIS EVENT!**



Brown County Fair Military / Veterans Appreciation Day  
Honoring the Korean Veterans

11-noon set up displays

Noon to 6PM display tent open to the public, Joe will be at the front gates

6 PM Veterans Program:

**Welcome by John Maino, Master of Ceremonies, not confirmed**

**Posting of the colors, Desert Vets, confirmed**

Maino will explain who the Desert Veterans are:

The Desert Veterans of Wisconsin is comprised of Veterans and military personnel who either served overseas, are currently serving, or were honorably discharged from any of our military branches. Any person meeting one of these guidelines is welcome as a new member. They are based out of De Pere.

**Pledge of Allegiance: so far Ed Koslowski**

Maino will read: American Veterans (AMVETS) mission statement is to enhance and safeguard the entitlements for all American Veterans who have served honorably and to improve the quality of life for them, their families, and the communities where they live through leadership, advocacy and services. There are 3 posts in Brown County. Howard/Suamico, Green Bay and Pulaski

**Bag Piper is Roberta Retia 336-5186 ? She can't do it.**

**Star Spangled by Laura Nehlsen, confirmed**

**Chaplin Prayer by VVA George Dexter, confirmed**

Welcome message, Troy Streckenback County Executive Maino intro Bernie, **Confirmed**

**Commemorative program, Bernie Erickson,**

**1<sup>st</sup> POW/MIA table**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of the soldiers from Brown County killed in Korea**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Posting of a wreath**

**4<sup>th</sup> Echo Taps**

**5<sup>th</sup> Have the Korean Veterans come forth for their recognition.**

**POW/MIA table Rolling Thunder Confirmed** Maino explain who Rolling Thunder are:

The major functions of Rolling Thunder, INC is to publicize POW-MIA issues: To educate the public that many Americans prisoners of war were left behind after all the previous wars and to help correct the past and to protect the future veterans from being left behind should they become prisoners of war-missing in action. They are committed to helping Americans veterans from all wars.

A person does not have to own a motorcycle or ride a motorcycle to be a member, but just have the time and willingness to be an advocate for our troops, veterans and POW-MIAs



**Of the 747 Wisconsin soldiers killed 16 were from Brown County. We'll read off the names of each of the soldiers that died in Korean War. MIA's are because the remains never recovered. After each name the bell will be rung in their memory. AMVETS 57 the bell**

PFC Gale Anderson  
PFC Eugene Arcand  
CPL Rodger Becker  
2LT Robert Blohowiak  
PFC Theodore Ellis  
PFC James Fiedler  
PFC Walter Fonder  
CPL Jerome Krumpas  
SGT Adrian Kurowski MIA  
CPL John Lepp MIA  
CPL Harley May  
PVT Alvin Nemitz  
PFC Richard Roznowski  
PFC Edward Solway MIA  
PVT Stanley Szymanski  
PFC Wilbert Wendricks

**Posting a Wreath,** Maybe Jerome then Artie will escort or Mitch then Ed will escort. Ed is working on it, should be a go. Wreath made by Barb K & Deb T.

**Echo Taps, VVA#224** Names: Dan Brungraber and Gene Burmeister. **Confirmed**

Maino explain who VVA are:

Vietnam Veterans of American was congressionally chartered in 1986. VVA is a veterans service organization comprised of any person that served in the United States Military during the longest and divisive war in the United States history.

Promotion of Veterans Health care, Insure continued post-traumatic stress disorder treatment, Assist in DVA claims appeals to court of law, Insure Agent orange and toxic substance treatment and compensation, Assist incarcerated veterans, Promote resolution of POW/MIA issues.

**Have Korean Vets come forward for award/appreciation**

**Retiring of the colors, Desert Veterans Confirmed**



**Door Prize drawings** Jim Haskins and Snake, **Confirmed**

Maino gives thanks to the groups listed below for the efforts today in the display tent.

Band performing is the: Montray trail, play 4-6 and then after the ceremony **Confirmed.**

Tables are needed for:

BCVS: needs 13 tables.

1 Vietnam Veterans

1 Desert Veterans of WI

1 AMVETS Post 57, 11

1 Rolling Thunder

1 American Legion Post 11

1 American Legion Post 539

2 Vets 4 Vets NWTC 2, UWGB 1

1 Marine Corp Legion

1 VFW in Ashb

1 Green Bay VFW post 2037

25 tables needed

Vehicle space:

Green Bay Veterans Center truck yes

Schneider truck(s) confirmed 1 yes

Desert Veterans trailer display, yes

Trailer to honor the fallen soldiers, yes

Possibilities:

Vietnam Veterans member 5/4 truck with trailer VV will handle it. Hub? In a nursing home  
Home for Heroes see list

10 tables for Veterans Services

3 for BCVS